

longer needed. It has served its purpose and outlived its usefulness. The Securities and Exchange Commission, which implemented the Act has urged its repeal for several years. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, along with many state public utility commissioners, also recognize the inefficiency of PUCHA's obsolete provisions and therefore support its repeal.

It is widely recognized that the redundant and burdensome regulations of PUCHA have resulted in higher cost for consumers. These regulations not only restrict the ability of electric producers to compete in a free market economy, but also restrict these companies from responding to the seasonal nature of electric demand.

Many States have begun to address this issue by moving forward to a fully competitive electric market that allows consumer choice. Due to the cumbersome regulatory structure imposed upon them under the PUCHA system, States will not be able to achieve the full benefits of competition.

S. 621 seeks to correct this while retaining essential consumer protections. Further, this bill allows the utility industry the flexibility to invest, diversify, and respond to current consumer

demand. By passing S. 621 we can reduce burdens on utilities and create savings which would then be passed on to ratepayers.

Mr. President, the time to act on S. 621 is now. There is simply no reason why we should delay action on repeal when the passage of this bill clearly preserves the fundamental principles of free enterprise and capitalism on which our great country was founded. I thank the chair, and I yield the floor.●

#### A TRIBUTE TO ROBERT BOWEN WINNER OF 1998 VITA WIRELESS SAMARITAN AWARD

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Robert Bowen for receiving the 1998 VITA Wireless Samaritan Award. The award is given by the Cellular Telecommunications Industry to recognize the contributions of individuals who used their cellular phone to heroically help their communities. Robert is a clear example of how matching emergency situations with technology can impact people's lives.

Robert Bowen is a police officer who is the head of the Keene Crime Watch

Bike Patrol. Robert was on patrol one day when the local police received a frantic call reporting a missing child. The police, in turn, alerted Robert on his wireless phone. An eight-year-old, who had run away from home, was nowhere to be found and was in need of his daily medication. Robert headed out on the wooded trails to an area he knew was a popular congregation spot for area children. He quickly spotted the boy and doubled back to alert the boy's father. The father and son were reunited, and Robert called the police department on his wireless phone to let them know they could call off their search.

The Keene Crime Watch Bike Patrol, armed with wireless phones, has found lost children, stopped crimes and brush fires and assisted in similar emergency situations for the past two years. I congratulate Robert for his courage and for demonstrating how police forces are utilizing modern technology to protect their communities. I am very honored to have Robert Bowen as a police officer in the Granite State, and it is with great pride that I represent him in the U.S. Senate.●

#### FOREIGN CURRENCY REPORTS

In accordance with the appropriate provisions of law, the Secretary of the Senate herewith submits the following report(s) of standing committees of the Senate, certain joint committees of the Congress, delegations and groups, and select and special committees of the Senate, relating to expenses incurred in the performance of authorized foreign travel:

##### CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FOREIGN CURRENCIES AND APPROPRIATED FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1, TO MAR. 31, 1998

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison:									
Germany .....	Mark .....	1,011.58	564.50	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,011.58	564.50
Total .....			564.50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	564.50

TED STEVENS,  
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations, May 7, 1998.

##### CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FOREIGN CURRENCIES AND APPROPRIATED FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 1998

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Edward M. Kennedy:									
Northern Ireland .....	Dollar .....	.....	588.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	588.00
Republic of Ireland .....	Dollar .....	.....	172.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	172.00
United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	.....	.....	4,458.00	.....	.....	.....	4,458.00
Trina Vargo:									
Northern Ireland .....	Dollar .....	.....	588.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	588.00
Republic of Ireland .....	Dollar .....	.....	798.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	798.00
United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	.....	.....	1,409.00	.....	.....	.....	1,409.00
Senator Pat Roberts:									
New Zealand .....	Dollar .....	.....	260.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	260.00
Australia .....	Dollar .....	.....	690.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	690.00
Senator Carl Levin:									
Japan .....	Dollar .....	.....	173.84	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	173.84
North Korea .....	Dollar .....	.....	436.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	436.00
South Korea .....	Dollar .....	.....	116.20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	116.20
United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	.....	.....	4,188.00	.....	.....	.....	4,188.00
David S. Lyles:									
Japan .....	Dollar .....	.....	193.84	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	193.84
North Korea .....	Dollar .....	.....	455.00	.....	10.00	.....	227.72	.....	692.72
South Korea .....	Dollar .....	.....	116.20	.....	6.00	.....	.....	.....	122.20
United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	.....	.....	4,474.00	.....	.....	.....	4,474.00
Richard W. Fieldhouse:									
Japan .....	Dollar .....	.....	211.34	.....	12.50	.....	.....	.....	223.84
North Korea .....	Dollar .....	.....	455.00	.....	10.00	.....	220.72	.....	685.72
South Korea .....	Dollar .....	.....	136.20	.....	6.00	.....	.....	.....	142.20
United States .....	Dollar .....	.....	.....	.....	4,474.00	.....	.....	.....	4,474.00
Senator Carl Levin:									
Bosnia .....	Dollar .....	.....	175.67	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	175.67